

Montana Land Cover Atlas

3520 Xeric Shrub - Grassland Associations

DOMINANT SPECIES

Grass:

Blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*)

Bluebunch Wheatgrass (*Agropyron spicatum*)

Bluestem (*Andropogon spp.*)

Fescue (*Festuca spp.*)

Needle & Thread grass (*Stipa comata*)

Western Wheatgrass (*Agropyron smithii*)

Shrubs:

Rabbitbrush (*chrysothamnus spp.*)

Sagebrush (*Artemisia spp.*)



DESCRIPTION

Xeric shrub-grassland associations with codominance between the shrub and grass species. Shrub and grass cover ranges from 10-50%. Found on dry sites in valleys and is usually between grass dominated and shrub dominated regions.

TOTAL AREA

524,061 hectares

79,041 patches

1.38 % of state

ELEVATION

571 - 2438 m range

997 m mean

STATE RANGE

Occurs primarily in central and eastern Montana valleys and some low mountain slopes.

